

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 3. Since claim 3 was indicated as containing allowable subject matter, claim 1 should now be allowable.

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Grosshauer U.S. 4,893,561 in view of Simeth U.S. 3,858,512. This rejection is traversed for the reasons following:

Grosshauer discloses a printing plate cylinder for carrying a single printing plate having a leading edge 7 and a trailing edge 8. The cylinder has a pair of bars 12, 12.1 which are separately pivotable to clamp the leading and trailing edges. Grosshauer does not teach a plate cylinder that carries at least two printing plates. Likewise, Grosshauer does not teach at least two tensioning rails for respective printing plates. Rather, the first bar 12 clamps the leading edge 7, and the second bar 12.1 clamps the trailing edge 8. Both bars act on a single printing plate, and there is no suggestion of how the tensioning function could be achieved with only one bar for each plate.

Simeth teaches a plurality of printing cylinders carrying a plurality of printing plates for printing a plurality of colors. As is well known, this means that each cylinder carries a single plate, so that each cylinder applies a single color. Even if the cylinders each carry a plurality of plates printing in that color, there is no suggestion to provide only one tensioning rail for each plate.


Newly submitted dependent claims 14-17 define still further over the art of record by reciting the features shown in Figures 6-8.

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The claims as amended being patentable over the art of record, withdrawal of the rejections and early allowance are solicited. If any objections remain, a call to the undersigned is requested.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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